Grants Commission (UGC) has sanctioned a Centre for African Studies in the University of Delhi.

(d) Under its Area Studies Programmes, UGC invites proposals from Universities for new Area Study Centres and Area Study Programmes, for consideration, as per relevant guidelines.

Projects for Assam

*290. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects being run by the Ministry in Assam;

(b) the details of the implementing authority and by when the projects are likely to be completed; and

(c) how many projects are in the pipeline for implementation in Assam alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) There are 159 ongoing individual projects under Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) in Assam including those sanctioned under special package for Bodo Territorial Council (BTC) and 59 ongoing projects through North Eastern Council (NEC)

(b) The details of these projects are given in the Annexure (See Appendix 208 Annexure No. 5).

(c) Forty-two projects have been retained under NLCPR for detailed techno-economic examination. Their details are as given in the Appendix. Six NEC projects are in the process of approval. Their details are as given in the Appendix.

Growth in Copper use

*291.SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been growth of 7 percent in the use of copper in India against world average of 4 percent but the per capita usage has not caught up with that of developed countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;